

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-3 (Cancelled)

1 4 (Previously presented) A method for assessing server and network of servers
2 capacity, summarized through two integer values representing Local Node Value (LNV) and
3 Composite Node Value (CNV), respectively, the method comprising:

4 calculating the LNV of a server as an integer value through a combination of
5 measured counters at the same point in time, the LNV reflecting the capacity of the server to
6 receive work loads; and,

7 calculating the CNV of a beginning server as an integer value through a
8 combination of the LNVs of a sub-network of servers that begins with the beginning server, the
9 calculation of the CNV including the LNV of the beginning server, the CNV reflecting the
10 capacity of the sub-network beginning with the beginning server to collectively receive work-
11 loads.

1 5 (Previously presented) A method in accordance with claim 4, further
2 comprising obtaining a plurality of characteristics or counters at a specific point in time that are
3 combined through correlation matrixes and weighted sums to produce the two integer values for
4 the same point of time, the correlation matrixes and weighted sums being updated over a period
5 of time to reflect historical changes over the period of time.